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Tutunjian and School District Reps Gather In Support of Legislation

For Immediate Release

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(March 24, 2004- TROY)- Mayor Harry Tutunjian, Troy Superintendent Armand Reo, Lansingburgh Superintendent Lee Bordick, School Board members, and City Council members will gather in front of Troy High School FRIDAY morning in a show of support for new legislation that will attempt to deter school violence and offer kids a safe learning environment.

The press conference will begin at 11 a.m. OUTSIDE of Troy High School. All members of the media are encouraged to attend.

Tutunjian presented legislation earlier this month to members of the City Council that if passed will impose a school curfew on kids 17 and under within 2000 feet of the schools located in Troy. Under the provisions of the ordinance, any person 17 or under that is within 2000 feet of a school during any function or school day, can be detained by the Troy Police Department for loitering. Details of the ordinance will be made available on Friday.

Many parents, as well as administrators, teachers, and other students, have noticed or complained about the well-known crowds of students that form outside of both Troy High School and Lansingburgh High School each day during and immediately following school hours. With cooperation of the school district, the law will be used to help foster a safer environment for kids, as well as providing a deterrent to potential gang problems in the area.

“If the council should pass this legislation, this is not something we will rarely use and hope that people simply comply with,” Tutunjian said. “Instead we will aggressively aim to change the problem that has been steadily growing over the past few years. The previous administration denied the fact there are gangs in Troy. There are gangs in Troy and we will do whatever it takes to not only kick them out of Troy, but to not allow a breeding ground for them to grow.”